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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/606,376	06/24/2003	Hui-Kai Chou	JCLA11125	4735
23900	7590	06/28/2005	EXAMINER	
J C PATENTS, INC. 4 VENTURE, SUITE 250 IRVINE, CA 92618			PAYNE, SHARON E	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2875	

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/606,376

Applicant(s)

CHOU ET AL.

Examiner

Sharon E. Payne

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 April 2005.
2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 13-16 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 13-16 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Park (U.S. Patent 6,050,704).

Regarding claim 13, Park discloses a frame (reference numbers 33 and 34), at least two U-shaped lamp tubes (reference numbers 31a and 31b) disposed inside the frame (Fig. 3), wherein the two adjacent U-shaped lamp tubes are respectively positioned at two sides of the frame (Fig. 3) and do not cross the center of the frame (Fig. 3), and the corners of the two U-shaped lamp tubes are aligned and adjacent (Fig. 3, see portions of lamp with the electrodes) and a diffusion plate (reference number 35) inside the frame (reference numbers 33 and 34) above the lamp tubes (Fig. 3).

Concerning claim 15, Park discloses the electrodes of the U-shaped lamp tube inside each lamp tube module face one of the side edges of the frame (Fig. 3, see the electrodes on the right).

3. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Amano (JP 404033202A).

Regarding claim 16, Amano discloses a frame (Fig. 1, bottom), at least two U-shaped lamp tubes (reference numbers 3c and 3b) disposed inside the frame (Fig. 2), wherein the two

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U-shaped lamp tubes are respectively positioned at two sides of the frame (Fig. 2) and do not cross the center of the frame (Fig. 2), and electrodes of the two U-shaped lamp tubes (reference numbers 3c and 3b) are at the center of the frame (Figs. 1 and 2) and face the bottom section of the frame underneath the lamp tubes (Fig. 1) and a diffusion plate (reference number 15) positioned inside the frame above the lamp tubes (Fig. 3).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Park in view of Amano.

Regarding claim 14, Park does not disclose the electrodes facing the bottom of the frame. Amano discloses the electrodes of the U-shaped lamp tube inside each lamp tube module facing the bottom section of the frame just underneath the lamp tubes (Figs. 1 and 3).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Amano in the apparatus of Park to enable one to use a dense arrangement of lamps, thus producing a more concentrated light. See the English abstract of Amano.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed 28 April 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Regarding claim 16, Applicant argues that Amano does not disclose that electrodes of the two U-shaped lamp tubes being at the center of the frame and face the bottom section of the frame. To the contrary, lamps 3b and 3c each have a set of electrodes at the center of the frame, much like Fig. 10 to which the Applicant refers in page 3 of the amendment filed 28 April 2005. See the lower electrodes of lamp 3b and the upper electrodes of lamp 3c of Fig. 2. These electrodes are at the center portion of the vertical portions of the frame, much like in Fig. 10 to which the Applicant refers in page 3 of the amendment as the basis for claim 16. Furthermore, the electrodes in Amano face the bottom section of the frame underneath the lamp tubes (Figs. 1 and 3 of Amano). To put it more specifically, Fig. 3 of Amano shows the electrodes in the same position as Fig. 6 of the instant application. Thus, Amano meets this element of the claim.

The other arguments are rendered moot due to new grounds of rejection.

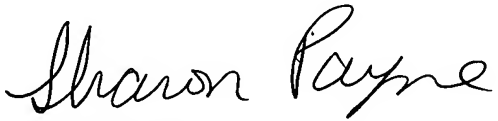
Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sharon E. Payne whose telephone number is (571) 272-2379. The examiner can normally be reached on regular business hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

9. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Sharon Payne
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800